

31st ANNUAL



CONFERENCE

10 – 14 October 2005

International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science
Libraries and Information Centers

Information for Responsible Fisheries: Libraries as Mediators



BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



Host and location of conference:
Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations
Rome, Italy

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The Red Sea Rangers: A case study on using spatial collections and remote sensing to protect aquatic resources

In 1997 the Nature Conservation Sector of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency formed the Red Sea Rangers to protect Egypt's Red Sea coastal resources and Marine Park Protectorates. A USAID grant focused on training the Rangers to use spatial collections and remote sensing to map and manage their coastal resources. Spatial collections included satellite images, ancillary GIS data, and Red Sea field observations. Satellite image processing software was used to integrate these resources.

This presentation provides a background on the spatial resources and the satellite image processing and interpretation techniques that were used during the training and addresses the challenges of communicating technical issues in a multi-cultural environment.

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Books on the ocean illustrating cloth bookbinding in the 1800's

Several factors influence bookbinding: how much the publisher wishes to spend on binding; the publisher's judgment on the type of binding likely to appeal to a book's readership; the state of binding technology; and, the contemporary climate of design. Using examples from books on the ocean, this presentation will discuss developments in bookbinding in the 1800s including the Victorian influence on design.

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The evolution of the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute: leveraging technology, science and information

Twenty years ago, video images from a small submersible in Monterey Bay inspired David Packard to launch and fund the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) as a private non-profit institution in Central California. Early initiatives at MBARI focused on a systems approach to biogeochemical cycles in Monterey Bay and on the development and use of remotely operated vehicles (ROV) with high-resolution video cameras and collecting capabilities. From the start, MBARI ROV dive videos and data were archived as a centralized institutional resource. Access to the images and data is provided through software applications developed at MBARI specifically for that purpose. More recent initiatives include development of autonomous-underwater vehicles and cabled observatories, which promise to extend the reach of our research into deeper, colder, and more physically challenging environments. Access, analyses and visualization of data from novel instrumentation and video cameras on these platforms are stimulating development of new methods and technologies at MBARI.

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The evaluation of grey literature impact using bibliometric indicators. A methodological proposal

Grey literature (GL), defined as material in print and electronic format not readily available through regular market channels or not widely distributed, has received an increasing attention in the last decade. A widespread agreement exists on its importance as information source. However, problems related to the actual use of GL have not been adequately investigated. In this paper a methodology to analyse the use of GL in bibliographic references of journals articles, already applied in some disciplinary fields (Physics, 1994, Agricultural economics, 1995; Demography & Computer sciences, 2004) is proposed. In order to verify to what extent GL contributes to scientific work, we use bibliometric indicators (frequency of GL use, frequency of GL citing), similar to the ones widely used for conventional literature. A specific bibliometric indicator that seems useful for measuring GL impact is the *intensity of GL citing*, that is, the average frequency of GL references per article containing GL, is described. Moreover, the potential use of the *impact factor* as an indicator of variability in GL use is considered. The issues connected with the difficulty of locating and identifying citations to GL are also briefly discussed.

DOULMAN, DAVID. FAO Fisheries Department (Italy). david.doulman@fao.org

1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries: Information in support of successful implementation

Largely from a developing country perspective, this paper provides a review of some of the issues relating to information needs required to support the implementation of the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and the challenges that these needs present for governments and stakeholders. By way of background, the paper commences with a brief examination of a number of issues that confront national administrations as they seek to secure long-term sustainable fisheries. This review, intended primarily for non-fisheries professionals, provides an indication of the nature, scope and complexity of the issues that these administrations, many of them small and disadvantaged, are attempting to address. The paper then presents a brief outline of the process adopted by FAO Members for the elaboration of the Code. The next section focuses on the challenge for information professionals in supporting the Code's implementation, including how the information can be more effectively disseminated to disperse groups and, perhaps more fundamentally, how are clients identified? The following section focuses on the nature and type of information necessary to assist countries implement the Code and raises questions about how to meet the challenges that such assistance and support entails. The paper concludes that information professionals should be involved at all levels and with different degrees of sophistication in supporting and sustaining the implementation of the Code. Moreover, it is suggested that the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centres (IAMSLIC) might usefully provide a forum to address fisheries information issues as they pertain to the support of implementation of the Code.

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The Oceanic Portal for the regions of Latin America and the Caribbean: Its development for Cuba

The presence in Internet of the scientific marine information on Cuba was dispersed or was nonexistent in spite of the existence of marine institutions that publish generally great amount of information in printed format. To have a Portal makes possible the identification and location of diverse sources of information in marine subjects within which the subject fishing appears and is analyzed in this work. An integrated, complete and efficient information service now delivers more to users anywhere of the world. The Portal must assume the challenges in its development, as well as the policies adopted by the institutions to facilitate publishing via the Portal concerning the scientific production of their specialists. The used system of promotion is described to involve to more users and authors in the use of this tool of information.

GOMEZ, MICHAEL J. Alfred-Wegener-Institute (Germany) mgomez@awi-bremerhaven.de

Managing eJournals: dealing with library patrons, publishers and providers (Something smells fishy or where are the back files for the Journal of Fish Biology and who owns them?)

Managing eJournals can be a challenge as well as an adventure into unknown terrain. The game rules are constantly changing and vary from provider to provider or publisher to publisher be it Ingenta, Blackwell Synergy, Springer or Elsevier. At the beginning of each new year there is the prospect of confronting access shut-downs, even when there is a paid subscription. Rolling archives can also create confusion among libraries patrons and librarians as well. How do publishers or scientific societies inform libraries about changes in online policies? Do they even bother? When a journal goes online-fulltext does it inform its readership or its subscribers? Patrons are kept informed about the availability of eJournals through in-house intranet webpages or the external services of the Elektronische Zeitschriftenbibliothek EZB (Electronic Journals Library) at the Universitätsbibliothek Regensburg (University Library of Regensburg). These questions and aspects of managing eJournals will be explored and discussed based upon experiences at the Alfred-Wegener-Institut Foundation for Polar and Marine Research Library.

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The Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn as a place for the circulation of scientific ideas: vision and management

In 1872 the German zoologist Anton Dohrn (1840-1909) founded at Naples a Zoological Station, the first independent international research facility for marine biology. Dohrn proved to be an able manager of science. He created an 'organism' which soon became a clearing house for methods and a privileged place for the circulation of ideas. The SZN has offered hospitality to guest investigators from different parts of the world. As a true 'hotel of science' it favoured communication and the exchange of ideas. It also developed vectors for long distance communication such as journals, monographs, animal supply, and international meetings. This paper will briefly trace the history of the Naples Station, showing that the turnover from a German private to an Italian public institute went smoothly thanks to the offices of Anton Dohrn's son Reinhard, as did the change from guest research to in-house research due to Gaetano Salvatore's far reaching vision during the 1980s and 90s. It will then outline some of the factors that may have contributed to the 'creative atmosphere', experienced by many investigators, which has made their permanence at the Stazione Zoologica special, memorable and important for their career.

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Information literacy as a university. Wide general education goal and the librarian's role

Mediation by librarians is ongoing no matter how many online tutorials, web pages, instructional leaflets, or other educational efforts take place. A role that librarians have filled is to teach others how to find published and sometimes unpublished materials. This role is part facilitator and part educator because in the process of showing someone how to find materials other knowledge is often communicated (for instance, knowledge about the publishing industry, publishing within a given academic discipline, or the importance of certain materials over others). The University of Connecticut (UConn) has begun to include information literacy in all four years of undergraduate study and to expect certain increasing competencies after each year. The biggest difference between traditional library instruction and the new efforts involves increased faculty involvement. This paper will explain different definitions of information literacy and efforts to achieve the following student skills: "*Information development and structure* - an understanding of how information is created, disseminated and organized; *Information access* - an understanding of information communication processes and a facility with the tools required to tap into these information communication processes; *Information evaluation and integration* - an ability to evaluate, synthesize and incorporate information into written, oral, and media presentations".

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Enhancing the flow of the information commons

This paper draws from lessons learned as information officer for the International Association for the Study of Common Property (where fisheries play a big role); as founder and director of the Digital Library of the Commons; and as consultant with East African foresters to develop digital archives and effective methods of sharing indigenous and scientific knowledge. It will discuss the concept of the *commons* and its usefulness in understanding the changed nature of free-flowing, globally-distributed information. It addresses the role of librarians in re-educating the scholarly community about their role in building the information commons. To fisherfolk concerned with quotas and allowances, for instance, open access (OA) is not a desirable policy. Open access of the seas can rapidly lead to overfishing and the tragedy of the commons. The challenge for librarians is not only to provide better access to information, but also to teach best OA practices to the information communities. We must work on removing the stumbling blocks to OA: fear of copyright regulations, uninformed decisions, and lack of time. The paper will examine possible ways to lead the scholarly community to actively participate in the open access movement, thereby helping to build to a rich and sustainable information commons

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Information for fisheries management in Nigeria: The role of libraries and networking

A brief overview of the marine and freshwater resources of Nigeria is provided. Despite extensive fisheries, Nigeria imports over two thirds of the fish demanded by consumers. The need to improve fisheries production capacity is important to the national economy and efforts are being made to put in place sustainable fisheries management policies and to extend the contribution of aquaculture through modern techniques. The paper discusses the opportunities and challenges facing libraries and information specialists, in particular in freshwater fisheries and aquaculture, and the role they play *in these efforts*. Strategies are proposed for improving access to and dissemination of information for the Nigerian fisheries sector. These include improving the publication, management and dissemination of information produced by Nigerian fisheries scientists and providing access to regional and global scientific information. Some of the mechanisms employed are covered i.e. Nigerian Fisheries and Aquatic Science Abstracts and associated special library collections; higher visibility in peer-reviewed literature and international databases such as ASFA and ABAFR; access to full-text journals via AGORA; and library networking to share available resources and expertise. The major constraints to implementation are discussed and include: the level of bibliographic scatter in fisheries; the high mortality rate of Nigerian journals; a poor level of bibliographic control; and last but not least, poor library funding. The paper advocates for better interaction between librarians and the publishers of Nigerian journals to map out strategies for their coverage in both local and international databases. To achieve effective information provision, the paper advocates for sustainable funding of libraries.

IMMINK, ANTON J. and MUIR, JAMES F. DFID Aquaculture and Fish Genetics Research Programme, University of Stirling (U.K.) a.j.immink@stir.ac.uk and j.f.muir@stir.ac.uk

Catching the message? Information challenges in aquaculture development

We offer perspectives from our programme's experiences over more than 10 years in attempting to interact and communicate in developing and applying knowledge in the field of aquaculture. During this period, our operating environment shifted from a traditional extractive research-public sector extension paradigm to the challenges of learning from and scaling up participatory approaches, and from written media in the form of scientific publications, reviews, to a much more diverse array of communication channels and partnership arrangements. Meanwhile our investors' expectations moved from a more disinterested public goods perspective to more object-driven impact-oriented research delivery according with emerging development goals. Our information processes and methodologies have changed, and we have had to adopt an approach which is both pragmatic and opportunistic, attempting to explore and develop good practice as we proceed. Have we become better at what we do, or simply less focused and more exhausted? We offer our reflections, our current issues, and what lessons we can understand to have emerged.

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The Africa Regional Group (AFRIAMSLIC): Opportunities and challenges. (Poster)

Fisheries, including aquaculture provide a vital source of food, employment and economic well-being for people throughout the world and it is expected that fisheries should be conducted in a responsible manner, which the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries sets out to do. Every planning process that leads to an enhanced development of a nation must be based on reliable and adequate information. Therefore, as Librarians in water-related institutions, our concern is about the efficient and effective management of information in all aspects of water resources development which can be achieved by well-supported networks. The Africa Regional Group of IAMSLIC (AFRIAMSLIC) which seeks to provide networking opportunities among colleagues, has been in existence since the 1980s although only in

recent years has communication by electronic mail enabled more active participation. This poster presentation will highlight the achievements of the group such as international co-operation with the Ocean Data Network for Africa (ODINAFRICA), and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) / South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB) Regional Network for Improved Access to Fisheries and Aquaculture Information in Africa; the challenges and the way forward for AFRIAMSLIC in providing information that constitute the building blocks of natural development.

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African fisheries publications available via Internet: survey of their dissemination. (Poster).

With the aim of improving the accessibility to scientific information in Africa, several initiatives have begun to make available in digital format scholarly and other African publications in general. The Internet is providing the opportunity for research institutions in Africa to publish and disseminate their information via the Web. Fisheries and aquaculture institutions in Africa are now publishing the results of their research via the Internet. It can be difficult for users to locate the documents they need in these specialized subject areas and increasingly we need systems to help users. After an overview of the availability of African fisheries and the aquaculture literature via Internet, this poster presents the results of a survey and analysis of the status of dissemination in digital format.

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Fish trade and food security

Both fish trade and food security are attracting global attention today. Half the globally traded fish comes from developing countries where poverty and hunger are not declining as rapidly as trade increases. Does fish trade therefore enhance or reduce food security? This question has no simple yes/no answer. It will depend on whose perspective you look at the issue. From the viewpoint of the nation as a whole? From the perspective of the fishers, the fishworkers, the fish consumers or the fishery resources? It matters also whether you are concerned about the direct or indirect aspects of food security. In short, this is a complex issue. Drawing on a global analysis and case studies from 11 countries across the globe, this presentation will attempt to provide a frame work by which the relationship between trade and food security can be better understood. Information availability is at the core of this pursuit. We need different types of information and documents. We must generate new data from old sources. We need to search for existing sources from different realms. All this must be woven together to provide fresh perspectives.

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Application of ISO 9000 in a University Library a case study: advantages and disadvantages. (Poster).

Certification with ISO 9000 has been developed in a University Library, together with other administrative departments, as part of the university goal. Documenting each procedure with flow charts, manuals, instructions, formats and controls has been performed and focus all in one aspect, user's satisfaction. In this analysis we present the advantages and disadvantages of the application of ISO 9000 a case study in a University Library in 2005. This certification program for libraries has been implemented by the Federal government since the year 2000 with the new government structure based on transparency and quality.

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Grey Literature life cycle in research projects: a case study

Scientific Grey Literature (GL) is generally produced within research projects, and it represents important results obtained by the project team in the form of deliverables, technical reports, guidelines, etc. Reconstructing the GL life cycle in a research project means to improve the process of production, collection, preservation and diffusion of institutionally generated information as well as enhancing its technological transfer. The paper

presents the results of collaboration between the Italian National Research Council (CNR) and the Italian National Institute of Safety and Health at Work (ISPESL) aiming at developing an information system - RIS-OSH (Research Information System on Occupational Health) - which gathers project descriptions and related outcomes. In the presentation of this case study, particular attention will be put on the methodology used to identify system requirements, which are based on the analysis of the process actually performed at ISPESL, when it funds research projects at external institutions. Workflow and information flows featuring the different steps of a project are described together with the identification of the actors, tasks performed, time scheduling and exchange of information and documents. The identification of the various actors involved in the process of supplying and diffusing project descriptions and related results are fundamental to develop a research information system, which can be directly updated by its information providers as soon as the information is available. This is achieved through access control and activity management of the process, which also guarantee the quality control of the information.

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Search engine sorcery: how to run the 'Age of Information' into the 'Age of Useful Information'

The rapidly changing nature of the global information web makes it imperative for librarians to continuously refresh their searching skills. What's new in the world of search engines and what's obsolete? I'll provide an update for 2005. We'll also examine the growth of search engines devoted to scientific and scholarly topics, such as Scirus, Google Scholar and OIAster. Finally, tips will be offered on shortcuts, tricks, software, websites and browsers that will ease and speed your search for information on the Internet.

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Open access study materials for better information management: developing OceanTeacher

Study materials about data and information management that are freely available through the Internet and the WWW are collected and made available through the OceanTeacher system in an organized way. The system has been accessible online free of charge through <http://ioc.unesco.org/oceanteacher/> and on one CD-ROM that is made available by UNESCO-IOC on request, mainly for users with poor Internet access. More specifically, most attention is spent to study materials on data and information management to support marine science or oceanography, because the whole system is created in the framework of UNESCO's International Oceanographic Commission (IOC), International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) network. The primary aim of the system is to assist managers and staff members to set up and run new IODE centres. In parallel with the part on information management, study materials on data management are included and this forms now the largest part. This contribution offers an overview of the evolution of the system, the contents and structure, the challenges and bottlenecks, the state of the art, and the plans for future development.

ORIENTE, RACHELE. Secretariat of the Pacific Community Library (New Caledonia) RacheleO@spc.int

HIV/AIDS and Pacific Island Region fishers and seafarers: information, education and communication needs and resources

Seafarers, including deep-sea fishermen, have an increased risk of HIV and other STI transmission because of the high prevalence of risk behaviours and a high degree of mobility. The Pacific context of HIV/AIDS is sketched, and then the situation of fishers and seafarers is described. The focus is on the information, education and communication (IEC) needs of Pacific fishers and seafarers. The existing IEC materials available and utilized in the Pacific region consists of print-based materials; video and audio productions, mass media; drama and condom distribution. These IEC are presented, reviewed and assessed. The challenges presented to IEC are foremost an appeal from Pacific Island Countries and Territories for more information. Other challenges are that this group is a grassroots audience: a basic literacy level, an emphasis on images, and conformity to social and religious restraints are necessary. Accessibility, distribution and assessing effectiveness of IEC are issues affecting HIV among fishers. Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) works with national governments, maritime training institutions and donors to strengthen prevention initiatives aimed at this group. SPC's

completed and current projects with HIV/AIDS among seafarers and fishers are reviewed, and the information component of these projects is presented.

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Is it fisheries or oceanography: Deconstructing the literature of fisheries oceanography. (Poster)

Fisheries oceanography is the use of applied oceanography to examine environmental conditions and relate these to fish dynamics and abundance. Are fisheries journals the primary publication outlet for fisheries oceanography research? Does ASFA (Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts) adequately cover this topic? To ascertain where this literature is published and indexed, a technique comparing search results from multiple databases on a variety of fisheries oceanography topics will be used. Data on similarity between indexes by topic, ranking of journals by topic frequency and accessibility of major journals for fisheries oceanography, especially in developing countries, will be presented.

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The Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA) database

The *Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts* (ASFA) database is the product of international cooperation across the world, coordinated by the Food and Agriculture Organization and other United Nations partners, and produced and published by Cambridge Scientific Abstracts. The network of international and national partners all contribute to the content of the database by indexing and abstracting relevant publications in the fields of aquatic and marine science from their countries. The ultimate goal is to disseminate information on all facets of aquatic science derived from the global scientific community, including aquaculture, fisheries, marine biotechnology, oceanography, policy and legislation and water quality. One of the unique features of ASFA is the active search for and inclusion of grey literature and literature from developing countries. A project designed to provide low-income food-deficit developing countries with access to ASFA was established seven years ago, through which ASFA on CD-ROM or via Internet was provided free of charge. A further aim of this project was to encourage these countries to become ASFA partners. So far a total of 7 former recipients from this project have become ASFA partners, further broadening the scope of material included in ASFA <<http://www.fao.org/fi/asfa/asfa.asp>>.

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Aquatic ecology and fisheries knowledge retrieval – Do we need (and can we afford) ontologies?

- Why might we need ontologies?
- Where would we use them?
- What sort of ontologies might we use?
- When – what would they cost and when would that cost be justified?
- How could we build them?
- Who would need to be involved?
- Has IAMSILIC a role as a mediator in ontology building and use?

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Advances of the Latin-American Regional IAMSILIC Group

In this year of 2005 our goals are to work in the following areas of the Latin-American Group:

1. Affiliation: to increase the group's affiliation in Central and South America. It is very important the affiliation to IAMSILIC and to the Latin-American Regional Group. We will continue to promoting the affiliation to IAMSILIC, sending information to several prospect institutions and also updating the information in the web site of the Group, in order to provide information and its actualization in both languages: English and Spanish. (<http://ola.icmyl.unam.mx/larg>)
2. Elaboration of the Latin-American Union Catalog, this action is under way with the help of Steve Watkins and German Ramirez. We expect by midyear to have the serials holdings of most of the groups participants.
3. To support the document delivery project, by allocating the funds to some of the institutions in Central and South America, in order to promote the Latin-American collection.

4. To establish communication with participants via messenger in order to have a stronger, dynamic and interactive conversation with the Group, having as the main objective the growing and the advance of the Group. This action was started in April.
5. We have the maintenance and updating of the 2 e-mail lists (one of the Latin-American Regional Group and the other the prospects institutions).
6. The development of the EPCOR and ODINCARSA projects.

In general, we would like to talk about the Latin-American Regional Group, its advances, results, diffusion and projection.

REYNOLDS, J. ERIC. FAO FishCode Programme (Italy) eric.reynolds@fao.org

Training and awareness for responsible fisheries: The FAO FishCode Programme

FishCode is the FAO Fisheries Department's special programme of global partnerships that combines the Regular Programme and Trust Fund resources to promote and implement the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and its related international fisheries instruments. The CCRF constitutes the primary normative framework for the activities of the Fisheries Department, and FishCode component projects and activities address application issues and problem areas requiring immediate attention in order for the Code's strategic aims to be achieved. This presentation focuses on Programme initiatives to foster appreciation and practical application of Code of Conduct approaches among national fisheries management practitioners and to build a broader public awareness for responsible fisheries, especially among younger people. The process is one of capacity building and "information brokerage" to promote stakeholder networks and communities of practice between producers, providers, advocates and other professional and popular users of responsible fisheries-related knowledge and tools – a process of strong mutual interest to FishCode and IAMSLIC.

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The Harvard (FAS) Sciences Digital Library (HSDL). Paper presented by Mary Sears.

The purpose of this presentation is to document the development of an institutional repository, the HSDL, through a grassroots effort by science librarians. In the process of forming the HSDL, relationships have been forged with the Provost's Office, among science departments and with the MIT Virtual Data Center. Non-science departments are now joining the effort. An institutional repository is an opportunity for libraries to provide innovative services that may change the way scholarly communication is perpetuated by using librarians as mediators between faculty and publishers as well as between the institution and publishers. Ultimately, a well-populated repository will raise the profile of an institution. The basic mission of HSDL is to support the research and teaching needs of Harvard University faculty and students as well as to support the missions of each science library resulting in better access in perpetuity to materials produced by Harvard scholars. Six types of digital objects anticipated as important for the repository: journal articles, theses, video, local serials, datasets, and learning objects. The libraries chose to use MIT's DSpace software. Research and educational communities within Harvard have developed distinctive cultures of autonomous operation; they require specialized modes of handling in relation to their participation in HSDL. A major measure of success of the HSDL will be the content gathered: target authors must embrace the concept. Marketing the HSDL to faculty, students and administration has been a major challenge. Faculty are supportive of the librarians identifying and reformatting (if necessary) content and depositing material and the maintenance of a digital archive.

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DLESE: Using search logs to assess a digital library collection. (Poster)

DLESE, the Digital Library for Earth Systems Education, is a discipline-oriented collection in the National Sciences Digital Library. DLESE is designed to support teaching and learning in the geosciences at all educational levels from kindergarden through postgraduate education. Geoscience resources such as lesson plans, scientific data and visualization tools, virtual field trips and discipline-specific, content-rich web sites are contributed by the community. A subset of the sites, the DLESE Reviewed Collection, is examined and evaluated. In this poster, we will describe DLESE and how it works. In many ways, digital collections are analogous to physical collections

and once a collection is formed, it requires assessment. What can you learn from usage statistics for a digital library that can help with collection building? How do usage statistics contribute to the assessment of a digital collection? We will describe the process of assessing the complete collection by reviewing and analyzing search logs and null results.

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Information sharing among fisheries and aquaculture institutions for sustainable development in Malawi.

It is an undisputed fact that no single library or an information centre has all the information required by its users. The reasons range from inadequate financial resources to inadequate space to keep the information. That is why there are efforts to share information among libraries or information centres. The sharing can be at an individual level or in a network within a country or beyond. Fisheries and aquaculture libraries or information centres in Malawi are no exception. They share information among themselves. This paper outlines first what libraries and information centres in Malawi are doing to ensure that they are able to share fisheries and aquaculture information among themselves and discusses the problems they encounter in such an effort. Finally the paper suggests some solutions to the problems.

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The Biologia Centrali-Americana Centennial: a vision for electronic access to taxonomic resources: The information interface between libraries and systematic biology. (Poster)

While data standards for storage and exchange of taxonomic names and specimen data are relatively stable, literature is still generally not accessible electronically or, if it is, the format does not enable interoperability with other data types. Anna Weitzmann, Smithsonian Institution, and Christopher H.C. Lyal, Natural History Museum, London, have proposed a standard for IUBS for taxonomic literature called taXMLit. The Biologia-Centrali Americana Centennial Project will be used as a model for this schema. The BCA, 58 volumes published from 1879-1888 on the Flora and Fauna of Central America, has been digitized by the Smithsonian Institution Libraries and is now available in on the web with JPEG and PDF images. The model will be appropriate for all taxonomic literature and will enable web-based interoperability with specimen databases, taxonomic authority files, and other datasets. In addition to integrating literature and other data sources (e.g., data currently available via the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS), Census of Marine Life (COML), FishBASE, FishNET), the method opens possibilities of generating further web products, e.g. checklists.

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Towards a framework for information and resource sharing between fisheries libraries in Africa.

What are the conditions necessary for enabling information and resource sharing between a number of fisheries libraries in Africa? What are the constraints? The paper addresses these questions with reference to the networking activities which began in 2002 between the South African Institute of Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB) and a group of fisheries libraries in several other African countries, with the co-operation of the FAO Fisheries Library. The basic premise is that there is an imperative to cooperate between such institutions. In the developing world, where institutional resources are scarce, libraries can play a critical role in the access to, collection of and dissemination of information. The questions posed above are explored in a variety of ways. The information capacity of a sample of fisheries libraries in Africa will be reviewed. A comparative survey will investigate the impact of technological developments and access to web-based fisheries information. An overview will be provided of existing African fisheries serial literature, and the challenges of capturing, indexing and disseminating this literature will be addressed. The spectrum of users of fisheries information will be studied, ranging across academic researchers, government departments, the private sector and civil society.

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Information habits of the fisheries non-scientific community in Argentina. (Poster)

The INIDEP Library is a government research information center, the only one in the Argentine Republic specialized in fisheries and marine science. Almost 35% of the external users correspond to the fishery sector which includes: industrials, stakeholders, government officials, policy makers, fishermen, etc. This group is geographically distributed along 2400 km of the 5 coastline provinces off the Argentine Sea (SW Atlantic). An Alert e-mail service is distributed regularly to part of this group and the subscribers number has increased a 100% during the last 2 years. In order to improve the use of fisheries information resources and the approach to the non-scientific community a survey is prepared to identify in depth the information needs and habits within this type of users. In support of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries importance, the surveyed audience is also requested about the knowledge and use of FAO information.

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The digital catch: An integrative role for IAMSLIC in the worlds of metadata, harvesters and repositories

From the electronic file of a single researcher's paper to the digitization of thousands of photographs and maps, the creation of digital objects is ubiquitous. Larger marine and aquatic institutions have the resources to create and share open archive compliant metadata and globally serve their digital collections. Smaller institutions and researchers may create electronic documents but have no means of sharing their knowledge over the Web. In support of the Open Access Movement, repositories of many flavours are now being implemented around the world and researchers are confronted with choices: Pauline Simpson will review some of the many options open to researchers to archive their digital documents, and Stephanie Haas will present some of the options that IAMSLIC is pursuing to facilitate the exchange of metadata and to provide access to digital objects from the aquatic community.

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Tsunami devastation in Indonesia: The role of cooperation and scholarly communication to sustain fisheries information

Fish is an important source of animal protein for rural households in many countries of Asia, especially in Indonesia, that provide as much as 30 - 70% of the total animal protein intake. As the population of Indonesia is projected to be 258.2 million, thus, the need for fish supply will dramatically increase. The improvement of the fisheries sector for increased production will largely depend on effective generation and dissemination of information on fisheries and aquaculture and related fields. Inadequate fisheries information provision to the rural areas, where the bulk of our population live, as well as powerful earthquake and colossal wave which struck off the northwest coast of the Indonesian island of Sumatra, which spawned tsunamis and wreaked havoc along much of the rim of those areas have caused serious problem in the fisheries development. The decline in fish production is affecting rural households the most, at times leading to malnutrition in low-income households. The importance of information on fisheries and aquaculture and related fields for strengthening of its national information services for fisheries, as well as to communicate research results to various users in Indonesia and other countries in Southeast Asia has urged Indonesian government to establish a "Fishery Information Center". Cooperation and effective communication among fisheries scientists and information profession have to be established to sustain the fisheries information. The role of fisheries information in this context for the decision-makers, as well as for students and the general community, is presented. The remarkable potential of Information Communication Technology, to communicate, store and manipulate information is emphasized.

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David Lubin as mediator – His letters, his library

The exceptional collections of the Food and Agriculture Organization's David Lubin Memorial Library are based on an original core collection of almost 400,000 books in agriculture, fisheries, forestry, food and nutrition, rural development and related topics from the International Institute of Agriculture (IIA). This paper examines

the evolution of the IIA, its collections, its founder David Lubin, mediator extraordinaire and David Lubin's correspondence with his contemporaries, including H.G. Wells. The IIA was one of many ideas originating with David Lubin, a self-educated Polish-born American, who in the course of his career had worked as a jeweller, oil-lamp salesman, gold prospector, department store owner and manager and farmer. Finding that normal business practices resulted in financial losses when wheat and fruit farming in California, Lubin quickly realized the uncertainty was caused by the farmer's lack of access to current national and international agricultural information. The story of the evolution of the IIA is largely a record of David Lubin mediating continuously, in person, by letter and through newspaper articles. Lubin established information exchange agreements directly with ministers of government and world-wide farm organizations; at his own expense he distributed thousands of documents and worked without monetary recompense until his death in 1919. The leadership and energy of David Lubin were emulated by IIA staff until its dissolution in 1946. They leave the lasting tribute of a precious historic collection spanning over four centuries. When FAO was moved to Rome in 1952, the Government of Italy granted to FAO the custodianship of this great heritage.

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TICVida '05: An Ibero American life sciences documentation e-conference. (Poster)

Twenty spanish-speaking American countries formed 60%, Brazil 3%, and Spain 37% of participants of the March 05 e-conference promoted by the Hispanic Association of Internet Documentalists (AHDI) <http://www.documentalistas.com>). The current development in information technologies targeting life sciences conjugated motivations for collaborative work. The European organisers focused on: gaining access to complementary expertise/results; developing longer term links; sharing costs; establishing or familiarising with standards; gaining expertise of European markets; monitoring competitors' activities. Awareness of American topics and issues raised by the electronic conference was a ceiling on the contribution of Europe's documentalists, and to become fully informed resulted into a collective dynamics of opinion. Three subject themes about public health, biology and social sciences achieved the basic platform for discussion along the five first days. 28 communications, available as compressed files, nourished the public health forum (what resulted in 480 pages at the printed version), 19 communications expressed the biologists' interests (192 paper pages), the selection, appraisal and retention of social science data occupied 13 communications and 241 pages. Five general debates were organised what included medical equipment and IT, internet and biology, the information and documentation professional in health, teaching and labour market in social science, and humanistic views on internet in biology. A round table was instituted as the switching point between the first and the second part of the event. Hope in the IT market as a social structure was expressed in considering life sciences. The second part of the e-conference was based on three workshops. The e-congressists were invited to contribute to sessions prepared from the European documentation centre (Alicante, Spain), the Isla de la Cartuja (Seville, Spain) internet firm Sadiel, and from the University of Huelva (Spain). EU policies related with life sciences, e-learning and university contents virtualization showed the evidences allocating this comparative Ibero-American analysis all its value.